

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated July 10, 2006. By way of the present response, Applicants have: 1) amended claims 1, 11, and 30; 2) added no new claims; and 3) cancelled no claims. As such, claims 1-3, 5-14, 16-21, and 23-32 are now pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and the allowance of all claims now pending.

Claims 1, 5, 7-9, 11-14, and 16-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Iwasa et al., US Patent No. 6,437,052 (hereinafter "Iwasa").

Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 11, and 30 to recite in part, "wherein the di-ol comprises an alkyl functionalized by two hydroxyl groups bonded to adjacent **acyclic** carbon atoms." (Emphasis added). Support for the amendment can be found throughout the specification, drawings, and claims. More specifically, support for the amendment can be found at least in Figure 1, where the two hydroxyls are connected to adjacent carbon atoms that are **not cyclically connected**. Iwasa, on the other hand, teaches an **acyclic** alkyl group having a diol structure—i.e. the two hydroxyl groups are connected to two adjacent carbon atoms that are **cyclically connected**. (See col. 3 and 4). Therefore, Iwasa does not teach, suggest, or disclose all the limitations of claims 1, 11, and 30 and thus the claims are not anticipated by Iwasa. Applicants respectfully request that claims 1, 11, and 30 be put in a condition for allowance.

Claims 5, 7-9, 12-14, 16-29, and 31-32 depend from independent claims 1, 11, and 30 and therefore for the same reasons as discussed above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 5, 7-9, 12-14, 16-29, and 31-32 are not anticipated by Iwasa and are thus in a condition for allowance.

Claims 2, 3, and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwasa et al., US Patent No. 6,437,052 (hereinafter "Iwasa"). Claims 2, 3, and 6 depend from independent claim 1 and therefore for similar reasons as discussed above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2, 3, and 6 are not obvious in view of Iwasa and thus in a condition for allowance.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Edwin H. Taylor at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,
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